

THE NATIONAL FORUM

VOL. I. NO.

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

VANITY FAIR

CONDUCTED BY JOHN H. WILLS.

COLORED STUDENTS WINS AWARDED GASTON MEDAL

For Excellence in Oratory At Brown University.

For the first time in the history of Brown University a colored student, Gough Decatur McDaniels, of Baltimore, won the Gaston medal for excellence in oratory recently.

McDaniels is one of the first students of the senior class, and in his junior year won third in the Carter prize reading contest. He was graduated from the Baltimore High School in 1906, and entered Brown in the fall of the same year. The prize is for the best original oration in English. McDaniels' subject was "A Plea for Liberia."

Naturally the first thing man endeavors to excel in his speech, and by operation of a law which none know, the Negro gains prominence as an orator wherever his powers are given opportunity to develop in this art. This above special to the Washington Post, from Providence, R. I., records one more triumph in this field.

THE ANNUAL SCHOOL DRILL.

Each year these exhibitions of skill in the art of war improve upon the past. This year we will witness the finest development of that art. Armstrong Manual Training School has four strong companies this year of which Company E, commanded by Capt. McKinley Bowie, an excellent soldier and gentleman appears to be the favorite. His friends are sure he will win. M. Street High School with two companies, Company A, commanded by Capt. Wilfred Lavson, and Company B, commanded by Capt. Willis Richardson. These two companies are so nearly equal in skill and fitness that the experts as well as their most enthusiastic supporters can see no reason why either should lose the high honor.

The contest this year will defer decidedly from those of former years, as there will be "an enemy in the field," composed of two squadrons detailed from the National Guard of the District which will act as the foe. Each contesting company will close upon the enemy by flanking movement and strike by force and strategy to rout the foe and gain the position of vantage.

The first outdoor athletic event of the year will be the annual school drill on Decoration Day. The participants will be M. Street High School, Armstrong Manual Training

School, Howard University, Baltimore High School, Morgan College, Baltimore, Y. M. C. A., Washington, D. C., Oberlin Athletic Club, Washington, and a large number unattached athletes of high quality. On the program are a 100 yards dash, a 200 yards run, high and low hurdle races. The special feature will be the mile relay races. The meet will be under the management of the following officers of the I. S. A. A. W. A. Joiner, president; Edward Henderson, general manager; Bessie Washington, Haley Douglass, Wm. DeCatur, Garnet Wilkinson.

These meetings usually are very interesting and draw the best audiences with attendance ranging from 1,000 to 1,500, and this year the management expect to surpass all former events.

BASE BALL.

Among the interesting events of Decoration Day will be a double header game between "The Washington Giants," colored, and "The Eastern Buds," white, at the American League Park. To enliven the interest of the occasion, the score of the game between the Washington and New York, American League, will be given by innings. As to the local teams, one is colored and the other is white, both have a large following of enthusiastic fans, and the "Buds" is the one local white team of high ability which plays annually a game with the best colored local team. The "Giants" is considered very strong, and a good game is to be expected.

"GET TOGETHER"

That was what I said last week. Some may not understand just what I mean.

To begin what is progress for the nation means progress for us, that is, if we join in and take our part. No idea of antagonizing any of the better social forces must enter our action, but there is so much that can be accomplished by organization along civic and social lines that will help and improve. The apparently divergent interests of the many elements of our people can easily be welded into the common cause which we all must acknowledge, the sooner, the better.

Unions for practical progress can be formed in neighborhoods, districts, cities and counties, with common aims—the betterment of race, eventually, general education. It matters not how far apart the social conditions of these unions, there is one solid common plane upon which all may meet. We must try to improve as a whole, and the minds of good men will be with us.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

Dr. W. T. Vernon—Masterly Address A Signal Feature Of The Occasion—Held In Metropolitan A. M. E. Church—Alumni Banquet At University At Night—Greatest In History Of The School.

Not in the history of Howard University, which is the educational Athens of the Negro of America, who is thirsting after higher education, has there been a more complete vindication of the useful and splendid purpose for which this institution is designed to serve, than was attested to by the commencement held May 25, 1910.

With its usual foresight, the committee on arrangements had methodically looked after every detail, and it was contemplated that the exercises would be held in the open air amphitheatre, which in one of the beauties that nature has been generous enough to lavish as a natural ornament upon the Howard Campus. But the elements were unkind and the gods apparently unpropitious and it was seen that the exercises of the alumni association had assembled upon the campus that the exercises would have to be held indoors, which contingency had been thoughtfully provided for beforehand.

The Metropolitan A. M. E. Church, noted for its capacity to accommodate large gatherings was taxed to its utmost, and the program was carried out without a hitch, and as if it had been originally intended to be held there. After the usual preliminaries, register of the treasury, Hon. W. T. Vernon arose to address the occasion and was greeted with an enthusiastic ovation. It is not saying too much to say that Dr. Vernon acquitted himself commensurately thereunto. Right well he did arise to the demands of the hour. Not in the history of our longstanding acquaintance with him and his career do we think we have ever heard him to better effect. His remarks were pregnant with good advice, but pointed in the extreme, replete with logic but elastic enough with rhetoric to be rich; mildly severe with cautious admonition, but scintillating with those great truths that make up the sum total of life and which are only gained from wealth of personal experience by those who offer them.

After the customary presentation of the diplomas, some hundred and twenty degrees men and women filed out of the church into the street and into the world to take up the battle of life and if possible to make it better for having lived and moved in its circle of human activity. Degrees of doctor of divinity were conferred upon four distinguished prelates whom the institution delighted to honor.

At night, as a benefitting symposium to splendid achievements of the day, a banquet was held at the Dean Kelly Miller presided. He once said that the education of all of the above

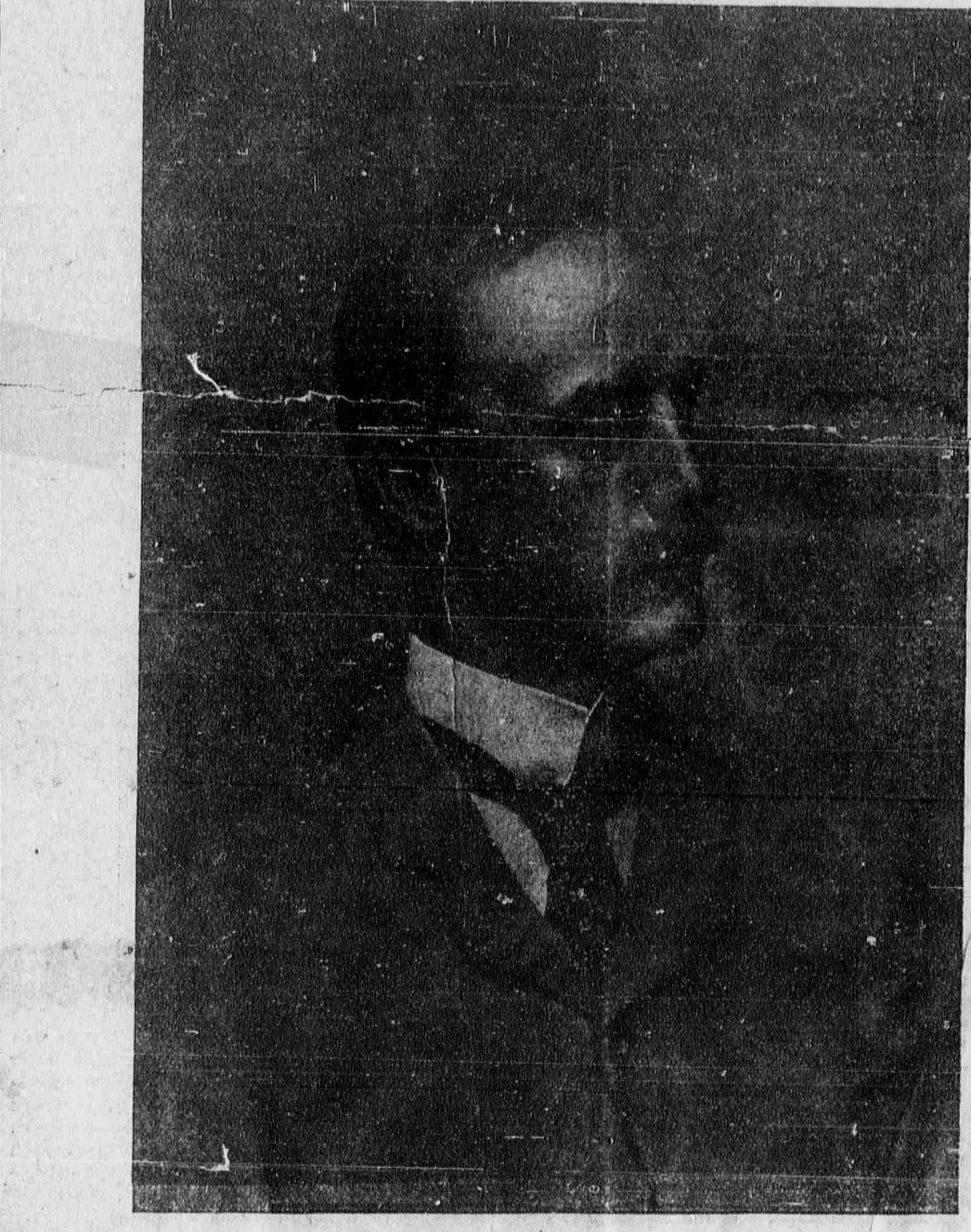
named elements blended in beautiful and unbroken harmony.

The college department was represented in a toast by Mr. Ocea Taylor, graduate of the college department and the law, as well as Mr. Taylor acquitted himself nobly and was a living example of what the institution produces. Mr. Taylor at present is special agent in the census department and one of the editors of our worthy and well wished contemporary in the field of journalism The Washington American. The theological and the affair of wit and wisdom was well looked after by Rev. G. F. Dillard who, while he was in spirit fully in harmony with the occasion lent dignity and balance to the same. Dr. E. D. Williston, our general and popular physician, cut up the occasion on the dissecting table of his ready and racy medical wit and proceeded at once to reconstruct a new and perfect whole. The law department was represented by Hon. Justin Carter of Harrisburg, and his plea for the bar was sufficient to have convinced a jury much more skeptical than that of the number of more than a hundred gathered around this festival board. Dr. Thirsk, who presided, showed plainly that he belonged in heart and mind to the esprit de corps.

Howard University, with all of the officials, has every reason to be proud of this; this past year's work as it marks the high water tide in the progress of the institution from every viewpoint. The Forum congratulates the university, as well as its executives and officers, and wishes for it an indefinite period in point of duration for good and for accomplishing successfully, year after year, in increased proportion, the educational advancement of turning over to the world in large numbers these splendid specimens of young men and women who enter the forum of life and "write their names high, among the galaxy of that immortal few that are born not to die."

The following are the graduates of the University this year, which number represents only those who received degrees, there being many more graduates whose names do not appear on this list for that reason:

- Bachelor of Arts.**
Barnett, Charles W.
Berry, Joanna M.
Boyd, Norma E.
Butts, Jonathan S.
Chase, William C., Jr.
Clifford, Joshua W.
Dagler, James F.
Jones, Ethel G.
Jones, Leroy E.
Love, Julius H.
Love, William A.
Lynch, Reginald L.
Meriwether, Sarah N.
Morris, Frederick D.
Oldham, George W. F.
Pillard, Ernest M.
Ridout, John C.
Snowden, Carrie E.
Summers, Howard H.
Terry, Harriet J.
Wilson, Welford R.
- Bachelor of Arts, and Teacher's Diploma.**
Cox, Henley L.
Davis, Sadie B.
Hanson, Bertha



HON. GIST BLAIR.

"FOR JUSTICE AND GOOD GOVERNMENT."

The contest now going on in the Sixth Congressional District of Maryland is full of interest for colored men. It is a contest between two men of high honor and high ability. It is a contest between a man of high honor and high ability and a man of high honor and high ability. It is a contest between a man of high honor and high ability and a man of high honor and high ability.

its hearty endorsement to the candidacy of Hon. Gist Blair, of Silver Spring, Md., for the Sixth Congressional District in Congress. It is no secret to other gentlemen that high honor and high ability are by no means best. It is a contest between a man of high honor and high ability and a man of high honor and high ability.

stitution and has fought and labored long and earnestly for the defeat of the infamous disfranchising laws in the State of Maryland. We could wish that there were more men similar to him in this great country. As State Central Committee, he had a man's part in pressing to the colored votes of Maryland the right of suffrage. Colored men, the country over, expect the colored voters of that District to do their duty to the race and to the nation by sending this patriotic citizen to represent them in the Congress of the United States.

- Hawkins, Rustus J.
Murray, Alice P.
Perry, Phoebe E.
Bachelor of Pedagogy.
Williams, William R., A. B.
Bachelor of Divinity.
Deans, Anthony
Diamond, John C.
Jackson, John T.
Perkins, Lloyd A.
Doctor of Medicine.
Allen, Charles A.
Ayers, John Harold W.
Bagley, Joliet C., A. B.
Barrett, William Henry A.
Bembury, Henry C., A. B.
Best, Edward Eleazer
Brathwaite, Harold M.
Brent, Clarence E.
Brooks, Charles S., A. B.
Coleman, William A.
Edwards, Michael M.
Ellis, John C.
Harris, Alfred W., Jr.
Harvey, William J., Jr., A. B.
Haskins, George H., A. B.
Holmes, William F., LL.B.
Levy, Walter M.
Lowrie, Thomas L.
McDaniel, Robert A.
Mason, Edward S.
Mercado, Clemente B.
Muckelroy, Henry L.
Pierce, John W., A. B.
Rouillac, Christopher M.
Scott, Walter L.
Stella, Raphael
Vaughan, Roscoe M.
Woodard, George N., B. S.
Doctor of Dental Surgery.
Bowen, James B.
Cherry, Joseph B.
Clarke, Conrad F.
Freeman, Carey V.
Giles, William D.
Godfrey, William D.
Goggins, Gene B.
Hymans, Adolph L.
Jackson, Andrew L.
Lawrence, Isaac M., B. A.
Lumsden, George F., Ph.D.
Morrison, Moses A., B. S.
Rance, Egeron L. H.
Tancil, Park
Washington, Anthony V.
Willis, Linford R.
Doctor of Pharmacy.
Bynum, James H.
Campbell, Reginald Q.
Cattlet, Sherwood L.
Dickerson, Enoch W.
Giles, Robert E.
Gray, Arthur S., LL.B.
Hathaway, James L.
Minton, Nathaniel G.
Weaver, Frank H.
Bachelor of Laws.
Bush, J. Fenwick
Blackwell, George W.
Blackwell, William R.
Floyd, James E.
Graham, Elijah J., Jr.
Harvey, Robert L.
Higgins, Tommie L.
Hodges, John G., A. B.
Johnson, Joseph H. M.
Mason, Isaac S.
Mitchell, Jesse H.
Payne, Brown W., A. B.
Sexton, Charles E.
Shellman, Wilfred F.
Smith, Jerome B.
Tavernier, Clifford H.

Taylor, Walter R., A. B., A. M.
Thomas, John W.
Thorne, John B.
Washington, Andrew D.
White, John W.
White, Ralph W., A. B., A. M.
PERSONALS.
Rev. I. N. Ross returned from Jacksonville, Fla., on yesterday, where he had been called to deliver the annual address at the Howard Waters College. Rev. Ross reports the institution as being in splendid condition and the people of Florida as being generally prosperous.
Miss Lethia Cousins, of Kimball, W. Va., who has been spending some time in Ashville, N. C., on the account of her health, contemplates spending the summer in the city of Washington.
Mr. J. E. Cherry, one of the graduates of the Dental Department of Howard University, achieved the unique distinction of winning two prizes, both first and second for excellent workmanship in the Dental Infirmary.
Mr. Cherry lead his class during his whole term and is the recipient of some exceedingly flattering offers to establish himself here in his profession.
Miss Allie Johnson, of Philadelphia, is visiting her brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Johnson, of 1818 Newton Street, N. W. From this place she will visit her relatives in Leesburg, Va.
Miss Nellie C. Robinson, an efficient and high grade clerk in the postoffice department, sixth auditor in Oberlin, Ohio, where she is spending part of her vacation. Miss Robinson is a graduate of Oberlin College, and sister of Mr. M. P. Robinson of the gridiron fame.
Mr. Henry Johnson has been touring Pennsylvania in his machine. He stopped over enroute at the Battle Ground of Gettysburg.
Conversing with Mr. Charles E. Gibson, driver of No. 16 engine company, we asked his opinion as to the electric fire engine. Mr. Gibson says, "These apparatus are very good for small cities, but are not suitable for crowded streets, as they are likely to endanger life and limb as they are not so easily controlled as horses, and are likely to break down. What the District needs most is the high water pressure system." Mr. Gibson is about 31 years of age, a veteran of the U. S. Navy, and was the first colored fireman appointed in the District of Columbia Fire Department for 23 years.
The entertainment given by the Independent Club at Metropolitan A. M. E. Church on Friday evening, May 13, was very interesting.
On the first Sunday in June, will be the first quarterly meeting of conference year at Metropolitan A. M. E. Church.
On the second Sunday in June, will be Children's Day, and a rally for the church.
An appeal was made at the M.

politan A. M. E. Church, Sunday, May 13, by Henrietta Vinton Davis, a representative of the Ladies' Auxiliary Board of the Sewing Circle, working for the interest of the non-sectarian home for the aged of the colored people of the District, and a good collection was given in response.
The Sacred Song Service Sunday evening, May 15, was excellently rendered by Metropolitan A. M. E. Church Senior Choir, assisted by Miss Mary H. Demby and Mr. Frank Fowler Brown.
The social given by the Mary A. Campbell Circle at Metropolitan A. M. E. Church parlors, Monday evening, May 23, was well attended and very successful.
The Wesley Club of Metropolitan A. M. E. Church will give a musical recital, Thursday evening, June 2, 1910, at the residence of Mrs. James H. Washington, 1526 Pierce Place, N. W. Select program.
Mrs. D. W. Onley, of New York, is visiting her friends in Washington, at 328 T Street, N. W.
Lead Pencils.
"Lead pencils" is a misleading expression. They contain no lead properly so-called, but are composed of graphite or plumbago, an allotrope form of carbon. The manufacture of graphite pencils in England began in 1564, when a valuable graphite mine was discovered at Barrowdale, Cumberland. The mine containing the purest graphite discovered is located at Ticonderoga, in New York State. The first manufacturer in the United States was William Monroe, of Concord, Mass., in 1812. Another pioneer in the industry was Joseph Dixon, in 1860.—New York American.
Homes for Colored PEOPLE
AT GRANT PARK ON THE HILL
In the District at 57th St., N. E.,
On the Columbia Electric Railway.
18 St. cars to direct to the property—5c fare—30 minutes from 15th St. and N. Y. Ave.
Pure spring water, fine shade, churches, schools, etc.
Lots \$100 to \$200 on Easy Monthly Payments.
NO INTEREST; NO TAXES.
The Poor Man's Chance To Buy
IRREDEEMABLE HOME SITE
SMALL COST.
Grant Park Office,
14, Ouray Building,
14th and G Streets, N. W.

Annual Competitive Drill

M STREET HIGH SCHOOL

VS

ARMSTRONG MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL

American League Park

Seventh Street and Florida Avenue, Northwest.

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1910, 3 P. M.

Grand Stand 35 Cents. Covered Stand 25 Cents. Bleachers 15 Cents.

"EXCUSE ME, SIR--YOU'RE ON MY TRAIN!"



—Cartoon by Triggs, in the New York Press.

Professor J. Laurence Laughlin, in the May Scribner, writes a remarkable article in which he says: "May it not be the psychological hour to call for the creation of a new aristocracy of the simple life, of those who care for the reality and not for the shadow, for the true inward pleasures of the mind rather than for the external, evanescent show? May it not be the time to create a free-lance army of those who do not ask how much one has, nor how much one knows, but what one is? Gold, in the sense of riches, may be the root of all evil; but gold, in the sense of a standard of prices cannot be the sole root of the evil in our increased cost of living."

EXTRAVAGANCE A NATIONAL VICE

Joseph T. Talbert Sounds Warning Against Reckless Expenditure—The Automobile Craze a Case in Point—It is the Fashion Now to Be Extravagant.

El Paso, Tex.—Extravagance has become not only a national vice but is in fact becoming a national menace in the opinion of Joseph T. Talbert, vice-president of the National City Bank, of New York. Mr. Talbert, who spoke before the Texas Bankers' Association, said that there does not appear anywhere to exist in the conduct of national, municipal or individual affairs, that appreciation of the economical and prudent use of resources and that adjustment of expenditures to means and incomes which always have been found necessary to the support of prosperity and to the maintenance of a condition of solvency.

The speaker cited the automobile craze as a case in point. "We are squandering on pleasure vehicles annually sums of money running into hundreds of millions of dollars," he said. "The initial cost of automobiles to American users amounts to not less than \$250,000,000 a year. The up-keep and other necessary expenditures, as well as incidentals, which would not otherwise be incurred, amount to at least as much more. This vast sum is equivalent in actual economic waste each year to more than the value of property destroyed in the San Francisco fire—perhaps to twice as much. This sum, as large as it is, does not include the whole economic loss growing out of this single item of indulgence. The thousands of young and able-bodied men employed in manufacturing machines and in running and caring for cars, all are withdrawn from productive usefulness; they become consumers of our diminishing surplus products and constitute an added burden to the producers. The economic influence of this withdrawal from the producing and adding to the consuming class, is bound to be manifested in a tendency to higher prices. Its effect already must be considerable, and is comparable only to the maintenance of an enormous standing army.

"Thousands upon thousands of our people, frenzied by desire for pleasure and crazed by passion to spend, have mortgaged their homes, pledged their life insurance policies, withdrawn their hard-earned savings from banks to buy automobiles; and have thereby converted their modest assets into expanding and devouring liabilities. The spectacle is astounding. In the matter of individual expenditures it is the fashion now to be extravagant to the point of wastefulness, and the fashion is running riot. Individual thrift is considered not merely miserly hoarding, but is looked upon as a vice and a thing to be despised. It is said that this is not a day of small things, and that wealth, as wealth goes now, may no longer be accumulated by the slow process of savings and economies. This may be true if we shall measure wealth only by billions or hundreds of millions, but, just as surely as there ever existed virtue in economy, of contentment and independence in frugality, they are there to-day, and just as surely as individual and national extravagance ever led to a day of reckoning they are doing so to-day. Among nations, and among individuals, permanent wealth and material progress are the results, not so much of rich natural resources as they are the products of economy and thrift; not alone economy in the arts of production, but economy of use.

"The maintenance of the present, high level of prices is dependent upon the sustained purchasing power of the individual which in turn depends very largely, if not wholly, upon the expansion of credit. Herein lies one of the chief elements of weakness and danger in the situation. "If the banks may by increasing loans create credits, which in turn create purchasing power and a sustained demand for high-priced goods, thereby still further advancing prices in the benefits of which all classes share except those who possess fixed incomes, it may be asked why this is not good; why not continue to promote the general ability to spend; why not continue giving to each individual an amount of enjoyment, luxury and pleasure unknown before, particularly when all this may be accomplished by merely increasing loans? The simple but comprehensive and truthful answer is that it cannot be done because in the long run every act of wastefulness and every item of extravagance must be paid for to the last farthing; every item consumed must be earned. Mr. Talbert also discussed the danger of the country losing its favorable trade balance and of adding an adverse trade balance to the other debt items which run against this country to the extent of hundreds of millions of dollars a year. Mr. Talbert estimated these items at a total of \$900,000,000, including \$200,000,000 spent abroad by American travelers.

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